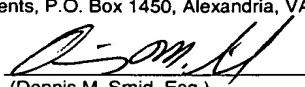


IFW

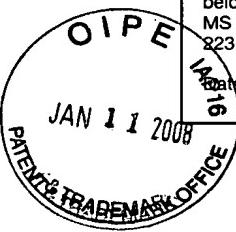
I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: MS Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Dated: January 7, 2008

Signature:

  
(Dennis M. Smid, Esq.)

Docket No.: SONYJP 3.3-773  
(PATENT)



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Tetsuhiro Sakamoto

Application No.: 10/019,794

Group Art Unit: 3621

Filed: June 6, 2002

Examiner: S. Kamal

For: DIGITAL DATA SELLING AND BUYING  
TRANSACTION SYSTEM, AUXILIARY  
DIGITAL DATA SELLING AND BUYING  
SYSTEM, DIGITAL DATA SELLING AND  
BUYING TRANSACTION METHOD,  
AUXILIARY DIGITAL DATA SELLING  
AND BUYING METHOD, AND DIGITAL  
DATA SELLING AND BUYING  
TRANSACTION APPARATUS

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

MS Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This communication is in response to the Office Action mailed December 13, 2007, setting forth a Restriction Requirement in the above-identified application. In the Office Action, the Examiner required restriction to one of the following inventions under 35 U.S.C. §121:

I. Claims 1-34, and 44.

II. Claims 35-43, and 45.

III. Claims 46-57.<sup>1</sup>

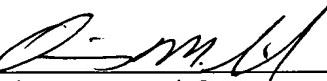
<sup>1</sup> Note—As indicated on the Summary page of the present Office Action, the present application has claims 1-57. However, on page 2 of the present Office Action, the Examiner appears to only address claims 1-46 with regard to the Restriction Requirement. This discrepancy was discussed with the Examiner during a telephone discussion on January 4, 2008 with Dennis Smid

In response, Applicant hereby elects the invention of Group I, corresponding to claims 1-34 and 44. Applicant reserves the right to file one or more divisional applications corresponding to any one or ones of the non-elected claims.

In the event any fee is due in connection with the present response, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-1095 therefor.

Dated: January 7, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

By   
Dennis M. Smid, Esq.  
Registration No.: 34,930  
LERNER, DAVID, LITTENBERG,  
KRMHOLZ & MENTLIK, LLP  
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(908) 654-5000  
Attorney for Applicant

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(one of the applicant's undersigned attorneys). During such discussion, the Examiner indicated that claims 47-57 should also be in group III.